

## West Lafayette Fire Department September 2011

Open Houses Fire station open houses are scheduled for Saturday, October 15. The public is invited to any one of, or all three, West Lafayette fire stations between 9:00 am and noon. The on-duty firefighters will have handout materials for kids and will be giving station tours.

9-11 All of last month's 9-11 ceremonial event planning and preparation was successful. Given that this was the ten year memorial anniversary extra effort was put forth to honor those who were killed and to help us "never forget". The first event that WLFD participated in was the Riehle Plaza memorial service. This event was not lengthy but included the suggestion from Dr. Will Miller to get "better" rather than "bitter". Our aerial truck and one engine was able to take part in the service along with several WL firefighters. WLFD has been the steward, for several years now, of a section of a steel beam from the World Trade Center and this was on display in the Plaza.

The stair climb event was successfully held at Ross-Ade Stadium. Approximately sixty people participated in climbing all of the stadium stairs and several more people watched and showed their support. Several area fire departments were represented in the climb including four Monticello firefighters who climbed as a team in full turnout gear and traveled the farthest to participate. Area police and EMS personnel also participated in the climb.

Bomb Scares Two runs this month demonstrated that the public as a whole is still very much aware of 9-11 and the heightened sense of security that we now live with. Shortly after September 11<sup>th</sup> this awareness was evident as we were dispatched to a possible explosive device that was called in by a concerned person. It turned out to simply be a personal belonging that was left unattended while the owner was in a different part of the building. The second call, a few days later, involved an unknown and possibly suspicious roadside item. It too was determined to not be a threat.

MDA It was another successful Labor Day weekend of raising money for MDA. This year the local fill-the-boot campaign collected more than six thousand dollars over the three day period.

Station 3 Two meetings were held this month to discuss the floor plan for the new fire station. This portion of the design is progressing well, as are the many other elements. Chandler Poole continues to do a good job of coordinating and pulling together all the groups that are working together to make this project successful. The Tippecanoe County Area Board of Zoning Appeals unanimously approved the request for a zoning special exception to allow the fire station to be built on the land within Phase IV of the Purdue Research Park.

Chief Drew